

THE BLUFFTON PEACE SENTINEL

Vol. 1

Bluffton, Indiana, November 28, 1941

No. 10

"IS LIFE WORTH LIVING"

DEPUTATIONS TO ILLINOIS

This week end will see both camp quartettes, Director Hartzler, and Dr. Hershberger embark on a trip to Illinois. They will appear at four services over Saturday and Sunday in the Mennonite churches of central Illinois.

On December 14 the camp quartet (Zook - Gunden - Swartzoll - Rutt) and Mr. Hartzler will appear at a Sunday afternoon service at the Zion Mennonite church in Elkhart. In the evening they will be at the W. Markot Street Mennonite church in Nappanee.

No other deputation trips are planned until after the holidays.

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CAMP COUNCIL

The last two meetings of the camp council have been full ones with a good deal of discussion. Action was taken on a number of routine matters including several improvements to be made on the campus: the erection of a floodlight to light up the walks and a clothes rack to be put up in the chapel. Five dollars was voted to the Red Cross for its Fall fund drive. The disposition of the special camp fund consisting of the earnings of fellows on Saturday farm work was discussed, and a report is to be posted of the amount now at hand.

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MENNONITES EQUAL THIRD OF C. P. S.

A Mennonite Central Committee report of Oct. 21 states that 455 boys from 16 Mennonite groups are now in Civilian Public Service Camps. This is about one-third of the total now in C. P. S. camps.

C. N. Hostetter, Jr. to Speak Here Dec. 5 to 8

Next Friday night will be the first of a series of meetings which have been scheduled as a special spiritual treat for the boys away from church and home at Camp Bluffton. Designed and planned to help each one individually to be more vitally Christian, these meetings will be of interest to every boy in camp who desires to get the very most in a spiritual way out of his stay in the Christian atmosphere of a Civilian Public Service Camp.

Subjects Announced

Mr. Hostetter, president of Messiah Bible College, Grantham, Pennsylvania has sent word that among the subjects to be discussed are: "Is Life Worth Living", "Taking Jesus Seriously", "The Man God Uses", and "Confidence Amidst Confusion". Between meetings he will be freely available for personal conferences with any boys desiring them.

Mr. Hostetter's pleasing personality and fine background of experience make him especially qualified for meetings of this kind. The Mennonite Central Committee has scheduled him to appear at each of its other camps for similar meetings. Let us all pray that these meetings at Bluffton will result in a genuine deepening and strengthening of the religious life of our camp.

Open Forum

If there is sufficient interest shown to warrant it, the speaker has advised that an open forum may be held to discuss pertinent problems of the present day. "World Disorder, Its Cause and Cure" has been suggested as a likely topic for consideration at such a forum.

MEDITATION

I read the following incident with interest and will pass it on for what it is worth.

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"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, that do with all thy might."

One day the door of a little old school building opened and an old man entered and wrote the above lines on the blackboard. Then without saying a word, the old man walked down the aisle out of the door, and passed out of the community. Who he was and where he came from, nobody ever knew.

Myron F. Herrick, the young school teacher in this little old school house, turned to his class and asked them to copy the verse, realizing that the scripture reference which the wanderer had given was worthy of their practice.

Not long afterwards one of the boys in this school disappeared and in time was forgotten. Years later, when Mr. Herrick was governor of Ohio, a man came to see him one day. The minute he saw him he recognized him as the boy who had disappeared from his school. He asked him where he had gone on that day long ago, and the man told his story. He had wandered around and located in South America. Luck had favored him, wealth had come, and he used his fortune in erecting a school. He pulled a worn little piece of paper from his pocket and handed it to the chief executive of Ohio.

"Do you remember the day you had us write that verse in class?" he asked.

And then he told him how he had tried to pattern his life on its theme and he had had it inscribed over the entrance of his school.

The old man who was always wandering little dreamed of the influence he had on a boy's life, and through him on hundreds and thousands of others.

You and I are living, not only for ourselves, but for others, every day. We would do well to write on our hearts, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, that do with all thy might." We are truly our brothers' keepers.

(by Helen Welshimer)

Mrs. G. F. Hershberger
Camp Matron.

In defending democracy by war we shall lose it forever; in defending Christianity by war we shall annihilate it.

John Middleton Murry

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METHODIST GROUP VISITS CAMP B.

Sunday afternoon, Nov. 16, a group of young people from the Decatur, Ind. Methodist church, accompanied by Rev. and Mrs. Graham motored to Camp 15 to visit a fellow camper, Jerry Carper, who has been at camp since Nov. 7. The group enjoyed inspecting the camp grounds and buildings. Afterwards there was supper in a shelter house in the park and an Epworth League program given by the group.

Besides the group of eighteen and Rev. and Mrs. Graham and the honor guest, Jerry Carper, three of the camp boys from Wisconsin also attended.

After the supper the Decatur group proceeded to Bern to attend the evening session of the Adams county Sunday school convention, held at the Bern Nonnons church.

To thine own self be true,
And it will follow as the night the day,

Thou canst not then be false
To any man. --- William Shakespeare.

VIEW POINTS

WHY I COULDN'T JOIN THE ARMY.

(Starting with this issue the editors present a new feature called View Points. In each issue we will print a cross-section of the views of campers on questions of interest to all. This week the question is "Why I couldn't join the army." More views on this question will be printed in the next issue.)

The purpose of the army is to destroy, either in defense or aggression.

I cannot be true to Christianity, I cannot be patriotic to my country, by aiding in the destruction of an enemy whom according to the scripture I should love him.

Paul P. Esch.

The whole purpose of combatant and non-combatant military activity is to kill and destroy. Combatant military service is taking arms for direct warfare, and non-combatant military service is an auxiliary to the task of killing in which the army is engaged. It is wholly inconsistent with the non-resistant way of life.

(to be continued)

The Spirit of Nonresistance

by Dr. Guy Horshbarger

JUSTICE OR PEACE?

One of the strongest counts against war and militarism is their injustice. One's mind goes immediately to the Academic families, broken and dispersed over territory extending thousands of miles. Or to the innocent starving children of Belgium in the days of the first World War. Or to the thousands now homeless and hungry, through no fault of their own in Europe and China. Or to the helpless Jews suffering at the hands of a persecuting Hitler. Or to the poor Cubans in General Weyler's concentration camps a generation and a half ago. The injustice of war is appalling and the believer in peace and non-resistance almost instinctively takes his position on the side of justice. And then we are also reminded of what the prophet Micah said many years ago: "What doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy and to walk humbly with thy God."

Non-resistant Christians will do well to remember, however, that the prophet puts the emphasis on doing justice, not on seeking it. Seeking justice often leads to vengeance, and the Apostle Paul said: "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath; for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord." Pacifists have often gone astray in their efforts to seek justice. The harmony of more than one Mennonite congregation has been spoiled because some members have insisted on having their personal "rights" at the expense of the welfare of the entire group. The Pennsylvania assembly of William Penn's Holy Experiment was made up of pacifists who also adhered to certain ideals of justice and freedom. They were democrats who found it necessary to exercise political power to achieve justice. But in their struggle for power their pacifism greatly suffered and in the end many discovered that they must choose between pacifism and the struggle for justice.

In the first half of the nineteenth century our nation suffered from the blight of negro slavery. The injustice to those

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WHY I COULDN'T JOIN THE ARMY
(continued from p. 2)

God's moral law, the ten commandments, does not and has not changed at anytime. Therefore, "Thou shalt not kill" means that it is as much wrong to kill now as when the command was given. Besides Christ said "If my kingdom was of this world then would my servants fight." This is why I cannot join the army.

-- Milo D. Stalter

I couldn't join the army because the purpose of an army is to kill and destroy, which is against the teachings of Christ. Matt. 5:38-39, 43-44; Luke 6:27-28; Romans 8:6-6.

I feel that I can be of more help to my country and still not going against the teachings of Christ by taking up the work I am doing.

-- David S. Yoder

I don't believe in destruction and killing.

-- Elmer M. Bontrager

FOOD for THOUGHT

by Myrtle Kolb
Camp Dietician

During the past week-end which was spent in the world of affairs I became very time-conscious. Everyone was so busy: in such a hurry all day long. No one had enough time for all the things he wanted to do. And I wondered in my heart what was the matter with us all. Surely we weren't meant to go rushing around like dizzy water-boobles!

It's interesting to discover how many little quotations come to one's mind--references to redeeming the time; and "time past is gone; thou canst not it recall", and so on. And especially two -- "What is time? It is nothing. It is only the noise the clock makes." And another which gives one such a hurried feeling -- "Use time in time while time lasts, for all time's no time when the time's past." Couldn't there be between these two some point of balance where we might find ourselves able to do the tasks which are given us to do and still have time for those things which contribute to a full and abundant life -- a moment full of quiet communion with God; talking with friends; going for a walk and storing away in one's heart the beauty of a sunset or the sudden coming of the first

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THE BLUFFTON PEACE SENTINEL

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"My peace I give unto you!" John 14:27

EDITORIALS

It is hardly reasonable to expect people to remain normal during a period of national disturbance. Under emotional strain they will say and do things which in their more rational moments would not be said or done. Furthermore, during war, liberties are taken with truth which otherwise would not be taken. Just why anyone could think that a supposedly great cause can best be furthered by leaving erroneous impressions, will probably never be fully explained. Such methods, however, are to be expected from ordinary politicians and would-be political advisers. But when people, whose judgment is held in high esteem, give themselves over to that kind of service, we wonder whether they may not have become desperate, and in their desperation lowered them selves beyond recognition.

Far be it from us to deny any one the right to disagree with Col. Charles A. Lindberg. We ourselves do not always agree in all things. Yet disagreement hardly gives license to use the tactics of Dorothy Thompson in her recent article on Lindberg, which was published in the somewhat sensational magazine, "Look". Her very "sensational" reasoning leads her to declare that Lindberg's behavior fits a pattern; the pattern of revolutionary politics designed by Adolph Hitler.

If we were to use her tactics we could make much of the striking similarity between her method of dealing with those whom she dislikes and Hitler's method of dealing with those he hates. We hesitate, however, to classify her with Hitler because of this unfortunate resemblance.

Is America Nazi because many in America believe with the Nazis that out of the evil of war good can come? No, America is not Nazi, neither now, nor ever, we hope, shall be. We only wish America could understand that Nazism and dictatorship is a

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF NON-RESISTANCE

To those of us whose objection to war is based on a religious conviction, the doctrine of non-resistance is good Christianity. To us the teaching of Jesus is clear and His example emphatic, that His followers are not to resist evil with force or any other form of retaliation. Many challenge this position and hold that such interpretation or practice is ridiculous; but when examined more closely, it is found to be not only good Christianity but good psychology as well. That is to say, it fits in well with the workings of the human mind.

PSYCHOLOGY ILLUSTRATED

Two men meet on the battle-field with bayonets poised, each threatening the other. Immediately the instinct of self preservation and the effects of their military training both come intoplay. Each knows full well what he and his foe intend to do. Each understands the other. But on the contrary, if one meets another who does not resist, that is something new and he is surprised. Being surprised, he begins to think. As soon as he begins to think, he becomes human, again: as soon as he becomes human, his conscience begins to work; and he then is ruined as a soldier.

MILITARY LEADERS

Peter the great and the Duke of Wellington, great military leaders in history, both admitted that if their soldiers should start to think, none of them would remain in the ranks. Certainly a course of feeling and action which thus weans men from a zest for violence and destruction is good psychology and good Christianity.

R. L. H.

FOREIGN FIELDS

Brother Henry P. Buller, writing from Lyon, France, Oct. 17, tells of giving aid to a group of Armenians located in France. These Armenians have been given powdered milk and 20 of their children have been supported for a period of time.

Clothing shipments to England from the Ephrata, Pennsylvania depot Oct. 31, were made up of clothing for children.

result of war, not the result of an attempt to keep out of war.

C. L. L.

black folks was obvious and many humanitarian leaders devoted their energies to the removal of this blot from our society. But in the end the effort culminated in a terrible war, and some pacifists supported the war on the ground that its purpose was the removal of injustice. Again the principle of peace was sacrificed for the ideal of justice.

In our present industrial society labor has suffered much injustice, and the modern labor movement is an effort to remove the injustice. Here again some pacifists with their almost instinctive flair for justice have come to the support of organized labor, sometimes even playing a prominent role in the movement. But is it possible for a believer in Christian nonresistance to do so? Is not the principle of the closed shop itself a grave injustice to the minority who have religious scruples against union affiliation? Are not the coercive methods of the labor unions incompatible with the principle of nonresistance? Only within the past week a dozen or more men (cont. on p. 8)

FISH and GAME

by Dennis L. Lehman

The heading for this article is quite deceiving. We work for the Indiana Department of Conservation, Division of Fish and Game. Here in Wells county we have an artificial lake in which fish have been planted but there is no fish hatchery. We therefore do not have any work or connection with the fish. Although when we talk about game we think of animals, I have only written about the birds. The reason for this is that the work we do at present is either maintenance work or labor that is connected in some way with the pheasants or quail.

MECHANICS TO BUTCHERS

George Smith and Cleland Gunden are our two mechanics. It is their duty to keep the nine trucks and one tractor in running order. They also prove to be skilled in everything from blacksmithing to the ability to cut frozen horse meat into tempting morsels for the bobcats and wolves which can be seen at the animal

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FORESTRY PROJECT

by Bud

Runsburger



STANDARD - TYPE FORESTER

When a person thinks of a forester, he usually pictures a tall, lean, resy-checked individual wearing a leather jacket, khaki breeches, and high-top boots. We probably would expect a forester to tramp through the forest inspecting trees, or sittin in the fire tower above the tree tops watching over acres and acres of woodland. However, the only time our foresters mount the tower is to take a guest on a sight-seeing excursion. The boys are working at various projects.

WALNUTS PLANTED

Ralph Bletcher and his experienced men went to collect more walnuts. The nuts, approximately 400 bushels, were then planted in the nursery beds. Orville Kern with his Oliver "80" made short work of preparing the beds with two new machines, the rototiller and bedmaker. The walnuts after being dropped in rows were covered with fine gravel.

The hauling of leaves for the compost pit is nearly completed because of the scarcity of leaves and the approach-cold weather.

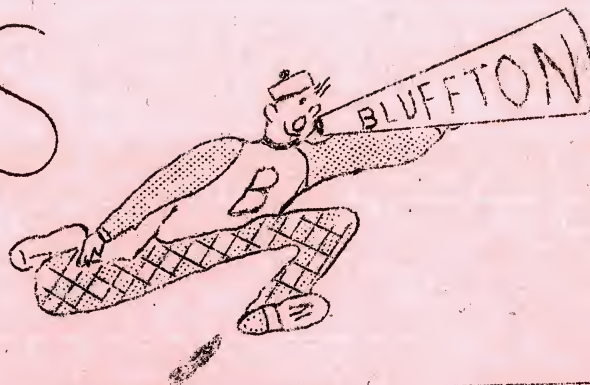
The stone quarry is providing considerable work and probably will for some time. The crushed stone and the surface dirt is being dumped into the quarry. The depth of the quarry is still a matter of debate. If one would listen to some of the stories, he would suppose that a few deep sea animals inhabit the water of the quarry.

Several of the forestry boys are steadily working on the remodeling of the WPA building for the new office and living quarters for the forester, Mr. Cook.

A few of the boys hauled residue from the Bluffton disposal plant. This is to be used as a fertilizer material in the nursery beds.

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KAMPUS KAPERS



10:00 P.M. Dorm D

Nineteen boys all snug and warm
Were starting to snore in letter D Dorm,
All radios quiet and lights out too
T'was a peaceful place till ole furnace blew

Then turmoil reigned, covers were thrown,
And Dorm C came over to see what was goin
To make such a racket and raise such a
clatter,
For we boys got madder and madder.

Soot was blown end to end,
Billows of smoke were starting to blend
Mid florescent light brilliant and bright,
Into sleepy eyes, it sure was a sight.

So slamming the furnace and opening windows
We opened the door and let the wind blow,
Then shivering with cold and sniffing head
We closed up the Dorm and went back to bed.

LLH

Dorm H had one of its old campers,
Hose Troyer, back last Sunday for a short
visit. Every body was glad to see him.

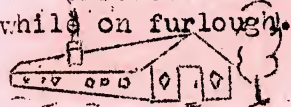
We hope Dennis Lehman will be back
before long, as his bed seems empty with-
out him in it. As you all know Dennis is
home on a sick leave.

The camp mascot, Pal, is enjoying life
anew since some of the boys of Dorm F are
home on furlough. Who's keeping your bed
warm boys, so don't worry.

Jacob Girod of Dorm C prefers the girls
of Adams County to any other. We wonder if
that is where his daily letter comes from.

Wickey Miller still hasn't got over
his hunting trip he had recently. He is
still telling how he used to bring them down.

Unfortunate human, Ed. Rutt - Married
while on furlough.



A round table discussion was had by
a few members of Dorm B. The discussion
centered on questions asked of C.O.'s in
England published by the American Friends
Service Committee.

John Whetstone, beware! You know a
woman set a trap for your brother and
married him; now the boys of Dorm A have
set a bear trap for you.

Dan Weaver of Dorm E talks in his
sleep about a certain some one.

Lowell Hershberger has been reminded
by the boys of Dorm C to fix his bed be-
fore going to work in the morning.

COLD AND HOW !!!

Zahn, one cold morning, was warming
himself near a fire. Plank standing near
him smelt rubber and told Zahn his rubbers
were on fire. Zahn took off the burned
rubber and saw a hole in his shoe. Then
he took off his shoe only to find a hole
burned in his sock! He claims his feet
were numb from the cold.

Since their fireman Eli Weaver is
home on furlough, Dorm F has been rather
chilly these cold mornings.

With three Coyne Electrical School
graduates in Dorm G the air atimes is full

of static.

What peculiar belief it is that
requires Paul Liechty of Dorm B to wear a
hat while reading in bed is not known.

Dorm A was a very lonely place over
the week end. There were only four out
of the fifteen fellows left.



Kitchen Left-Overs⁻⁷⁻

by Paul Kinzor

Miss Kolb was developing considerable skill in throwing the ice pick and making it stick in the wall until recently it dropped back of the bread cupboard whereupon Harry recovered it by remote control.

Norman and Willis are good debaters on the subject of married life. Drop in and hear one of their debates. They go on all the time.

Harry is training Manassas to be a good cook. He'll soon know how to sear soup. The morning cooks, Lylo, Louis, Ray and Eli, are always wide-awake and cheerful when they appear for work at 4:45 or later--mostly later.

FISH AND GAME Cont. P.5

display building at all times.

THE HATCHERY

There are six incubators in the hatchery with a capacity of 11,000 pheasant eggs. These eggs are about the size of small pullet eggs and vary in color from dark brown or blue to an almost white. The pheasant egg hatches in twenty-six days and the quail in twenty-five. The incubators have a capacity of 21,000 quail eggs. One hundred and eight thousand five hundred eggs were gathered last spring. We have four separate blood strains of the bob white quail. They are Crosly, South Carolina, Massachusetts and Wells. The Wells is referred to as our own, by the officials.

FORESTRY PROJECT (cont. fr. p.5)

The fellows of the forestry division all join in wishing our forester, Mr. Kenneth Cook, a long and happy married life. He was married to Miss Grace Gebhard of Fort Wayne on November 15. At this writing he is still honeymooning in Florida. We hope he doesn't tempt us with too many stories of the balmy south.

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WHO'S WHO SUBJECT FOR OUR NEXT TO LAST ISSUE WAS TROY LORCH.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT (continued fr. p. 3)

star. There must be, if life is to be worth the living.

"What is this life if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare?"

No time to stand beneath the boughs
And stare as long as sheep or cows;
No time to see, when woods we pass,
Where squirrels hid their nuts in grass;
No time to see, in broad day-light,
Streams full of stars like skies at night
A poor life this if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare."

What do you think?

WHY WE SHOULD KEEP OUT OF WAR

(from the jacket of Paul French's book, "We Won't Murder")

17,000,000 dead ---17,000,000 soldiers and sailors killed in the last war!

Who were they? Statesmen? Politicians? Big-navy advocates? Munitions manufacturers? Business leaders whose factories hummed during war times? Editors whose papers loved to stir up international bad feeling, because it helps circulation?

NO!---NOT ONE! They were just average citizens.

LAUNDRY NEWS and BLUES

Orie Miller, old-time dress shirt ironer, replaces Bert Jones this week.

Ben Shirk is going home for his brother's wedding. We hope that he has good luck if he happens to be best man.

Erwin Gingerich had a long furlough due to bad bus connections.

A certain dorm A man is washing his own shirts now. He can't bear to see his shirts go through the mill anymore. An anonymous dorm B man is telling friends he's saving one dress shirt from the laundry crew to wear at home on the holidays.

APOLOGY AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

THE PEACE SENTINEL went to press rather later than usual this week due to our being handicapped by the absence of Editor (cont. on page 8)

THE SPIRIT OF NONRESISTANCE

(cont. from p. 5)

were shot in the captive mine strike. Is there any way in which these methods can be reconciled with the spirit of non-resistance?

Democracy, freedom and decent working conditions are desirable and just. But can the believer in Christian non-resistance strive for these ideals at the expense of his religion? "Why do ye rather take wrong? Why do ye rather not suffer yourselves to be defrauded?", Paul says. We do well to remember that Christ gave the world his teachings in a day and in a world where democracy and freedom and decent working conditions were generally conspicuous for their absence. And yet in that world he said, "Resist not evil". Christians themselves must never be the authors of tyranny, slavery or human misery. They must always do justly. And if they can achieve a measure of justice in the world about them by Christian means, well and good. But this may never be at the expense of the nonresistant way of life. "Avenge not yourselves. . . Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord".

LETTER FROM MICHIGAN

Mio, Michigan
Nov. 16, 1941

I am still very much interested in our camp and think of you boys often.... I went to the Upper Peninsula to prospect for beaver trapping for next spring.Then I came back and went to work as though my shoulder had never been dislocated. I'm about caught up with the marl hauling, have several small jobs yet, but I have lots of work for the "dozer".

Yesterday was the big day around northern Michigan. The deer season opened. I got a 4-point buck at 7:40 a. m., but I also have a camp permit. I can get a doe or a buck on that but I won't shoot a doe before the last of the season....Another hunter and I were shooting at another buck, a 6-pointer, at noon. He was really my buck but because I had one I let him have it. Anyway, I'd rather have steak than sausage. That's about all there was left of

when we got him down for keeps. We each shot seven times and he had at least four holes in him. My brothers got two more, too, so we will have venison for awhile, even if we don't get any more. We still have three licenses and the camp permit to fill. I had hoped to bring one down for you boys (ed. note: dorm C boys who lent this letter to the SENTINEL). But according to the law it is impossible.

.....
.....
I expect to visit camp sometime this winter, probably around New Years. I'm too busy right now. I also want to visit the Pennsylvania camp then.
Your friend,
Rouben Asch.

CARL LANDES VISITS CAMP. NOV. 11

Carl Landes, rural secretary of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, visited camp Nov. 11. He brought news of other C. P. S. camps, especially the matter of camp relations with nearby communities. Several of the camps started out with decided community prejudice against C.O. 's but by means of service projects and friendly contacts with people of the community have very much bettered their situation.

Another visitor to Camp BB was Denny Wilshire, former director of the Friends' camp at Royalston, Mass.

APOLOGY ETC. (cont. from p. 7)
Lehman who is in New York, and of prod. Manager Lock, who reclined in the infirmary while slaves T. Lorch, R. Zahn, C. Miller and K. Miller struggled to press.

CPS CAMP NO. 13
Bluffton, Ind.

Sec. 562 P.L.
& R.

Dean H.S. Bender
Goshen, Ind.

